1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Purchase of medicines	–	–	–	4564	–	4000	–	2750
Treatment of minor disease	3	6	–	–	–	–	8	23
Treatment for Gynae disease	3	20	–	–	6	20	–	–

Rate of interest on EPF

2409. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that no decision was taken on the rate of interest payable on deposits in EPF during the course of the meeting of EPF Board held in March, 2007;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether Government would take a long term view on this question, when the economic position of the country is quite sound?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The matter regarding rate of interest for the year 2006-07 was placed before the Central Board of Trustees, Employees' Provident Fund in its 179th meeting held on 10.03.2007. However, the matter was deferred as it required more discussions at various levels. Subsequently, the Board in its special meeting held on 23.07.2007 recommended the rate of interest for the year 2006-07 as 8.5%.

(c) As per the provisions of the Employees' Provident Fund Scheme 1952, interest is required to be credited to the account of each member at such rate as may be determined by the Central Government in consultation with the Central Board of Trustees. The rate of interest to be credited on EPF accounts in any particular year is determined in such a manner that there should be no overdrawal on the Interest Suspense Account as a result of debit thereto of the interest credited to members' accounts.

Upgrading ITIs into centres of excellence

2410. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:
SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA:

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) how many ITIs were upgraded into Centres of Excellence in 2006-07, give State-wise details;

(b) how were such ITIs identified to be upgraded;